



**DEVELOPMENT AND RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT
Building & Safety Services Division**

**RESIDENTIAL SWIMMING POOL PERMIT
REQUIREMENTS**



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<p>City of FRESNO </p> <p>BUILDING & SAFETY SERVICES</p>	<p>CITY HALL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT</p> <p>2600 FRESNO ST. 3RD FLOOR FRESNO, CA 93721 PH.(559) 621-8082</p>	 <p>Residential Swimming Pool Permits</p>
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HOW TO APPLY FOR A SWIMMING POOL PERMIT:

When applying for a building permit to install a swimming pool, the applicant shall submit the following for approval:

1. 2-sets of plot plans showing the following:
 - Name and address of the owner of the property
 - Distance from the pool excavation to the property lines and all adjacent structures on the property
 - Location of all pool equipment
 - Location of all recorded utility, drainage, and planting easements or right of ways
 - Location of hose bibbs within 25 feet of the pool and the water supply.
 - Square footage of surface area of the swimming pool
 - Listing of all pool equipment including pumps (size of motors in horsepower), pool lights, transformers, heaters, etc.
2. 2-sets of engineering plans noting the specifications and steel reinforcement requirements for the construction and installation of the pool and equipment, stamped and signed by a registered engineer.
3. Electrical load calculations based on Article 220-30 of the National Electric Code are required if the existing electrical service is 125 amperes or less.

ELECTRICAL SETBACK REQUIREMENTS: Overhead electrical conductors create a safety hazard when in close proximity to swimming pools. Overhead conductors must not pass over the pool unless the conductors are a specified height above the pool as detailed in the California Electric Code and PG&E's Greenbook for Electrical and Gas Service Requirements. Electrical service drops require a minimum clearance of 18 feet from water's surface to overhead lines. Telephone lines and cable television systems may pass over a pool if a 10' vertical clearance is maintained above the swimming pool.

PLUMBING REQUIREMENTS: Plastic PVC when used in the circulating system must have a soil embedment depth of 12". Risers to the pool equipment may be plastic PVC and shall be painted with latex paint to provide protection from the sun. There cannot be a direct connection between any storm drain, drainage system, and drywell or subsoil irrigation line connected to a swimming pool. Any discharge from the swimming pool for the purpose of lowering the water level must be from a hose connected to a hose bibb on the filter or separation tank with drainage to an acceptable location.

All swimming pool circulation systems shall comply with the anti-entrapment requirements as outlined in section 3109.5 of the California Building Code.



SWIMMING POOL SAFETY FEATURES:

Section 3109.4.4.2 of the California Building Code and section 115922 of the California Health and Safety Code requires that “whenever a building permit is issued for construction of a new swimming pool or spa, or any building permit is issued for remodeling of an existing pool or spa at a private single family home, it shall be equipped with at least one of the seven drowning prevention safety features”:

1. The pool shall be isolated from access to a home by an enclosure meeting the requirements of section 3109.4.4.3 of the California Building Code.
2. The pool shall incorporate a removable mesh fence that meets ASTM Specifications F 2286 standards in conjunction with a gate that is self-closing and self-latching and can accommodate a key lockable device.
3. The pool shall be equipped with an approved safety pool cover that meets all requirements of the ASTM Specifications F 1346.
4. The residence shall be equipped with exit alarms on those doors providing direct access to the pool.
5. All doors providing direct access from the home to the swimming pool shall be equipped with a self-closing, self-latching device with a release mechanism placed no lower than 54 inches above the floor.



6. Swimming pool alarms that, when placed in pools, will sound upon detection of accidental or unauthorized entrance into the water. These pool alarms shall meet and be independently certified to the ASTM Standard F 2208 Standards Specification for Pool Alarms" which includes surface motion, pressure, sonar, laser, and infrared type alarms. For purposes of this article, "swimming pool alarms" shall not include swimming protection alarm devices designed for individual use, such as an alarm attached to a child that sounds when the child exceeds a certain distance or becomes submerged in water.
7. Other means of protection, if the degree of protection afforded is equal to or greater than that afforded by any of the devices set forth above, and have been independently verified by an approved testing laboratory as meeting standards for those devices established by the ASTM or the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME).

Prior to the issuance of any final approval for the completion of permitted construction or remodeling work, the local building code official shall inspect the drowning safety prevention devices required by this act and if no violations are found, shall give final approval.



CONSUMER NOTICE

Private Swimming Pools, Spas, and Hot Tubs 2010 California Building Code Section 3109.4.4. Private Swimming Pools.

Definitions. For the purpose of this article, the terms noted shall be deemed to have the meaning ascribed to them as follows:

APPROVED SAFETY POOL COVER means manually or power-operated pool covers for swimming pools that meet all of the performance standards of the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM), in compliance with Standard F-1346-91.

CLIMBABLE FENCE, WALL, STRUCTURE OR BARRIER means any fence, wall, structure or barrier with any protrusion(s), indentation(s), cut-out(s) or the like which render the fence, wall, structure or barrier easily climbable by a child below 5 years of age, as determined by the Building Official.

ENCLOSURE means fences, walls, or other barrier that isolates a swimming pool from access from the dwelling and adjoining public or private property.

EXIT ALARM means an approved listed device that makes audible, continuous alarm sounds when the door to which it is attached is opened or left ajar. Exit alarms shall be installed on any door providing direct access to the swimming pool from the home. Exit alarms may be battery operated or may be connected to the electrical wiring of the building. Exit alarm devices shall be installed at a minimum height of 54 inches above the finished floor, so that they may be considered out of reach to smaller children.

SWIMMING POOL or POOL means any structure intended for swimming or recreational bathing that contains water over 18 inches deep. Swimming pool includes in-ground and above-ground structures and includes, but is not limited to, hot tubs, spas, portable spas and non-portable wading pools.

Sec. 3109.4.4.2. Construction Permit; Safety Features Required.

Whenever a construction permit is issued for construction of a new swimming pool at a private single-family home, duplex or planned unit development it shall comply with the following safety features:

The swimming pool shall be equipped and maintained with at least one of the following safety features:

1. A swimming pool enclosure meeting the specifications and requirements of CBC Section 3109.4.4.3
2. An approved safety pool cover.
3. A natural or artificial barrier that the Building Official determines will provide protection equivalent to the above.
4. Exit Alarms on those doors providing direct access to the pool.
5. Self-closing, self-latching device with a release mechanism placed no lower than 54 inches above the floor on all doors providing direct access from the residence.

Prior to the pool being plastered or filled with water an enclosure barrier, enclosure fencing, self closing devices, exit alarms, safety glazing, and safety hardware for gates or doors and any other protected openings or safety devices shall be in place, inspected and approved.

Section 3109.4. Enclosure; Required Characteristics. A swimming pool enclosure shall have all of the following characteristics:

- A swimming pool shall be completely surrounded by means of a non-climbable fence, wall, structure or other barrier, which is not less than 5 feet in height with no gaps, voids, or openings larger than 4 inches in any dimension. When a picket fence or like design is utilized, the vertical openings may be limitless, provided the horizontal opening dimensions between the pickets is not greater than four inches. The maximum vertical clearance between grade and the bottom of the barrier shall be 2 inches measured on the side of the barrier that faces away from the swimming pool. The maximum vertical clearance at the bottom of the barrier may be increased to 4 inches when grade is a solid surface such as a concrete deck.
- When barriers have horizontal members spaced less than 45 inches apart, the horizontal members shall be placed on the pool side of the barrier. Chain link may be used with a maximum mesh size of 2.25 square inches and openings are not greater than 1.75 inches.

- All pedestrian access gates opening through such enclosure shall open away from the pool and shall be equipped with self-closing and self-latching devices designed to keep and capable of keeping such gate (or door) securely closed and latched at all times when not in actual use. Latching devices shall be placed at least 60 inches above grade or approved solid surface. Gates, other than pedestrian access gates such as equipment or vehicular access gates, may be equipped with hardware capable of locking and are required to remain locked when not in use.
- Any single-family dwelling or other building on the premises may be incorporated in and considered as constituting a portion of the required enclosure provided all doors providing direct access from the dwelling or other building to the swimming pool are equipped with exit alarms installed at least 54 inches above the finished floor.
- Glazing in walls and fences used as the barrier shall be approved safety glazing when the bottom edge is less than 60 inches above the walking surface on the pool side of the glazing, and within 60 inches horizontally from the water's edge of the swimming pool or spa.

A lake or other private body of water that provides a degree of protection that would prohibit smaller children from accessing the swimming pool may be incorporated in and considered a portion of the required enclosure provided all of the following criteria are met:

- No public access to said body of water is permitted through private property, except as private guests of such persons in possession.
- Access to the rear yard of such lot from the neighboring properties is completely blocked by a non-climbable fence, wall, structure or other barrier not less than 5 feet in height which extends to the edge of the contiguous body of water and otherwise meets all of the requirements of this code.
- Where docks or other occupied spaces are existing or constructed beyond the edge of the contiguous body of water and are within three feet (3') of a neighboring property line the fence must extend to the farthest extent of the dock or other occupied space.